



## **National Weather Service Raleigh to Participate in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day Saturday, December 3, 2016**

December 1, 2016 - The National Weather Service in Raleigh will participate in the 18th annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) with members of Central Carolina SKYWARN on Saturday December 3, 2016. SKYWARN Recognition Day was developed in 1999 by the National Weather Service (NWS) and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). It celebrates the contributions that volunteer SKYWARN radio operators make to the NWS.

Amateur radio operators comprise a large percentage of the SKYWARN volunteers across the country, and they provide vital weather reports and communication between the NWS and emergency management if normal communications become inoperative. During this event, amateur radio operators will visit the NWS Raleigh office and contact other radio operators across the world, and radio operators at other NWS offices. This event also serves as an opportunity for the testing of amateur radios and antennas, and all other forms of backup communications.

What makes this year's SKYWARN Recognition Day event special is that Wake County Emergency Management will be participating with NWS Raleigh, and will have their mobile command post trailer set up adjacent to the weather office. Several radio stations will be set up in the command post, where radio operators will be contacting other NWS offices and other SKYWARN volunteers across the country and across the world. This setup will provide an opportunity to not only showcase SKYWARN and amateur radio, but the important partnership between the National Weather Service and its emergency management partners.

The 24 hour amateur radio event, which is based on Universal Coordinated Time, will run from 7 PM EST Friday, December 2, 2016, through 7 PM EST Saturday, December 3, 2016. Members of Central Carolina SKYWARN will begin preparing for the event Friday afternoon, setting up antennas and radios at the NWS Raleigh office. Numerous radio contacts will be made at the start of the event Friday evening, with the bulk of the contacts made during the period starting early Saturday morning through the end of the event Saturday evening. In addition to making radio contacts, during the day Saturday the NWS Raleigh will provide tours of the NWS Raleigh weather operations facility to its trained SKYWARN volunteers.

Central Carolina SKYWARN, as well as the members of Triad SKYWARN, are integral parts of the SKYWARN community and the National Weather Service's life-saving mission. Part of the severe weather warning success of the NWS Raleigh office, year after year meeting severe weather warning goals, can be attributed to the tireless efforts of the amateur radio operators of Central Carolina SKYWARN and Triad SKYWARN.

Please visit the following websites for more information:

- Official SKYWARN Recognition Day web site: <http://hamradio.noaa.gov>
- NWS Raleigh SKYWARN web site: <http://www.weather.gov/Raleigh/skywarn>
- Central Carolina SKYWARN: <http://www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net>
- Triad SKYWARN: <http://triadskywarn.com>

Media contact:

Nick Petro, 919-515-8209, ext. 223

## 2012 SKYWARN Recognition Day at NWS Raleigh:



WX4NC Team Front Row (L to R): Central Carolina SKYWARN (CCS) AEC Bob Woodson WX4MMM, Cassie Mentha W2YBN, Pamela Lewis KK4JCZ, Randy Stark WN4RSS, CCS EC Virginia Enzor NC4VA, Raleigh NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist Nick Petro WX3H. Back Row (L to R): Chris Benson KJ4LKE, Ken Stark W4KJS, Phillip Jones KG4IVD, CCS AEC Scott Lewis KJ4BPV, Michaela Woodward, NC ARRL Public Information Coordinator Woody Woodward K3VSA (not pictured Darin Figurskey KC2IPY, Alan Plitegoff AB4OZ, and Cliff Broughton W4FT)



HF team of (L) Pamela Lewis KK4JCZ and (R) Virginia Enzor NC4VA scored numerous contacts on 40, 20 and 15 meters. Pam made her first HF contact!



VHF team (Front) Ken Stark W4KJS and brother Randy Stark WN4RSS and (Back) IRLP Coordinator Bob Woodson WX4MMM were busy throughout the day.